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22856 U.S. PTO
10/815958

040204

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Application of Takayuki YATABE, Hisato YAMAMOTO, Yasuhisa TERADA, Takashi OGAWA, Tsuyoshi KOSHI, Hiroya ACHIHA and Shoji NOGUCHI
BALL BEARING
Assignee: **NSK LTD.**
Our Ref: Q80916

Dear Sir:

This is a request for a Continuation Application of pending prior Application No. 10/323,845 (Confirmation No. 9980) filed December 20, 2002, which is a Divisional Application of Application No. 09/619,503 (Confirmation No. 1243) filed July 19, 2000 (now Patent No. 6,524,008) of Takayuki YATABE, Hisato YAMAMOTO, Yasuhisa TERADA, Takashi OGAWA, Tsuyoshi KOSHI, Hiroya ACHIHA and Shoji NOGUCHI entitled BALL BEARING.

This application is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Enclosed is a specification, including the claims and abstract, 10 sheets of drawings, and a copy of the Declaration as filed in the prior application.

The prior application is assigned to Group Art Unit 3683.

Priority is claimed from:

| <u>Country</u> | <u>Application No</u> | <u>Filing Date</u> |
|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Japan | Hei. 11-205245 | July 19, 1999 |
| Japan | 2000-007930 | January 17, 2000 |

The priority document(s) were filed in parent Application No. 09/619,503.

The Government filing fee will be paid at a later date.

Respectfully submitted,

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